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1962/12/04

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Memorandum of Conversation

This document contains of _____
Number _____ of _____

DATE: December 4, 1962

SUBJECT: Mikoyan's Conversations with the President and the Secretary

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador Platzer, Austrian Embassy

WE - Mr. Galen L. Stone
WE - Francis X. Lambert

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December 12, 1962

At Ambassador Platzer's request, Mr. Stone briefed him on the talks that occurred on November 29 and 30 between Soviet First Deputy Premier Mikoyan, the President and the Secretary. Drawing on selected parts of uncleared memos, Mr. Stone told the Ambassador that Mikoyan's talk with the President of November 29 lasted three hours and twenty minutes, but about half of that time was required by the interpreters. The discussion was devoted almost entirely to Cuba and most of it concerned what had happened.

The only other subject discussed was Laos. The President said that there was evidence that the USSR was not living up to its agreement to withdraw its troops from Laos. Mikoyan replied that the USSR was in fact living up to its agreement.

On November 30, Mikoyan and the Secretary attended a working luncheon which lasted about two hours, Mr. Stone continued. Four topics were discussed: the Brazilian atomic free zone proposal, measures against surprise attack, nuclear test ban, and Berlin. Most of the discussion concerned Berlin. The Secretary stressed that the U.S. itself had vital interests at stake in Berlin and that it was extremely important that the Berlin problem be handled in such a way that it not lead to a crisis.

Ambassador Platzer thanked Mr. Stone for the briefing, which he said he found interesting and helpful.

FORM DS-1254
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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited: An International Collection of Documents, from the Bay of Pigs to the Brink of Nuclear War

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Format: 49 double frame, 105mm x 148mm microfiche
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